AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a computer system communicably coupled to a wireless local area network, the computer system automatically obtaining, storing, and sending digital content via a wireless local area network access point to an automotive storage and playback device when the automotive storage and playback device includes a wireless transceiver that is within range of the wireless local area network, the computer system obtaining at least a portion of the digital content from a wide area network, based on user defined preferences input into the computer system, while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the computer system comprises a system control application to send the digital content automatically in response to control firmware on the automotive storage and playback device broadcasting a discovery message to the system control application, when the automobile coupled to the automotive storage and playback device is turned off.

16. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the computer system sends the digital content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the

computer system.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14 wherein the computer system is operable to send the digital content in response to a user action.

18. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the computer system comprises: a system control application to manage and control the transfer of the digital content; and a user interface.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring digital content to an automobile comprising:

an automotive storage and playback device for coupling to the automobile, the automotive storage and playback device including a first wireless transceiver to automatically receive digital content via a wireless local area network, the automotive storage and playback device coupled to an output device in the automobile that is capable of playing the digital content; and

a computer system communicably coupled to the wireless local area network and remotely located with respect to the automotive storage and playback device, the computer system automatically obtaining, storing, and sending the digital content via the wireless local area network to the automotive storage and playback device when the automotive storage and playback device includes a wireless transceiver that is within range of the wireless local area network, the computer system obtaining at least a portion of the digital content from a wide area network, based on user defined preferences input into the computer system, while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein control firmware on the automotive storage and playback device broadcasts a discovery message periodically and automatically for the purpose of synchronizing content from a system control application on the computer system when the automobile is turned off.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives the digital content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives is operable to receive the digital content in response to a user action at the computer system.

23. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the computer system comprises: a system control application to manage and control the transfer of the digital content; and a user interface.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 further comprising a storage and datalink unit coupled with the first wireless transceiver to receive the digital content from the first wireless transceiver and convert the digital content into at least one of binary data and instructions.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24 further comprising a head unit coupled to the storage and data link unit via at least one cable.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein the head unit comprises:

a stereo sound processor;

an audio mixer coupled with the stereo sound processor;

a pre-amplifier coupled with the audio mixer;

an amplifier coupled with the pre-amplifier;

a tuner coupled to an antennae attached to the automobile; and

a user interface.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26 wherein the head unit further comprises:

a compact disc drive coupled with the stereo sound processor; and

an audiocassette drive coupled with the stereo sound processor.

28. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the digital content includes at least one of a music file, a text file, an image file, a video file, and an interactive multimedia file.

29. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the wide area network is Internet.

30. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a battery.

31. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a temperature-based control system.

32. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a vibration dampening system.

33. (Original) The system of claim 32 wherein the vibration dampening system includes two elastomeric suspension caps.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring digital content to an automotive storage and playback device coupled to an automobile comprising:

communicably coupling the automotive storage and playback device to a local area network when the automotive storage and playback device is within range of a wireless local area network; and

receiving at least a portion of the digital content automatically from a remote computer system via the wireless local area network, based on user defined preferences input in the computer system, while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device, wherein the digital content was obtained by the remote computer system from a wide area network.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein receiving digital content includes control firmware broadcasting a discovery message periodically and automatically when the automobile is turned off for the purpose of synchronizing content with a system control application on computer system.

36. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein receiving digital content includes receiving the digital content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising wherein receiving digital content includes receiving the digital content in response to a user action.

38. (Original) The method of claim 34 further comprising decompressing and converting the digital content into at least one of binary data and instructions.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising transferring the converted content to an output device in the automobile.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39 further comprising playing the converted content on the output device.

41. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the digital content includes at least one of a music file, a text file, an image file, a video file, and an interactive multimedia file.

42 - 45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture having one or more recordable media with executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a system, causes the system to perform a method comprising:

causing a transfer of digital content from a computer system to an automotive storage and playback device; and

causing the automotive storage and playback device to periodically and automatically send one or more messages via a wireless transceiver to the computer system when the car is turned off, wherein at least a portion of the digital content was obtained from a wide area network while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver

of the automotive storage and playback device, and further wherein selection of the digital content to obtain is based on user defined preferences input into the remote computer system.